(c) and (d) It appeared that the import of certain pulse$_s$ contracted for by private parties was, by and large, in the same pric$_e$ range. But it would be difficult to make any strict comparison of the prices/rates at which the pulses are imported by the different agencie$_s$ $_a$nd the private parties, as such prices would depend upon a number of factors including the quantum, variety, quality, terms of payment, etc.

Shortage of funds for NCR plan

1845. SHRI J.' P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atten tion has been invited to a news item which appeared in Hindustan Times on the 23rd February, 1988 under the captlion Fund shortage may kill NCR. plan;

(b) if so, what are the details in this legard; and

(c) what steps have been taken to release adequate funds by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The 7th plan fund requirement for the NCR Development Scheme were projected as Rs. 867 crores (Rs. 467 crores for Central schemes and Rs. 400 crores for State Sector schemes) against which Rs. 65 crores tin the Sta'.~ uiban development sector (Rs. 35 crores Central share and Rs. 30 crores Slate thare) has been allocated. *Due* to resource crunch, the Investment Estimates were revised to Rs. 305.58 crores under State and Central Sector schemes for development of 3 towns—one in each State—during the remaining period of 7th plan. The Planning Commission is exploring the possibility of providing additional funds t_0 the ^*CR* Plannling Board.

Employment exchanges in the country

1846. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what i$_s$ the total nunber of employment exchanges in (he country at present;

(b) what is the total number of unemployed persons who have registered themselves at these employment exchanges; and

(c) what is the total number of persons who got employment during the last thre$_e$ years through these employment exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAG-DISH TYTLER): (a) There are 835 Employment Exchanges including 80 University Employment Information and Guidance Bureaux functioning a$_s$ on 31st December, 1987.

(b) The number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the Live Register of Emp loyment Exchanges a$_s$ on 31st December, 1987 was 302.5 lakhs.

(c) The number of placements effected by the employment exchanges during 1985, 1986 and 1987 wa$_s$ 3.9 lakhs, 3.5 lakhs, 3.3 lakh$_s$ respectively,

Import of edible oils for vanaspati Industry

1847. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state.-

(a) what is the amount spent in im port of edible oils for Vanaspati indus try during the last one year; and

(b) whether Government propose to encourage use of non-conventional oils in Vanaspati industry to save foreign ex change?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) During the calendar year, 1987 the